

**Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned**  
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the attached one page abstract at the end of the application (one page abstract attached).

Please replace the heading at line 1 of page 1 with the following heading:  
**Specification**

1. Technical Field

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 4 on page 1:  
2. Related Art

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 9 on page 2:  
SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 13 on page 4:  
THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 13 on page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The object of the invention is illustrated of the basis of the embodiment examples in the drawing and is described in the following. ~~They show:~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 on page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 1 is a ~~[[C]]~~ conceptual representation of a piston ring coating method with a partial cover of the individual piston rings; and ~~[[.]]~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 17 on page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figures 2 through 5 illustrate ~~Example of~~ piston rings with varied profiles, on one side with the cover, and on the other side with the cover removed.

**Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned**  
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 19 on page 4:

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 on page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 1 shows as the conceptual sketch of several piston rings 1, arranged one after the other, that are supplied with a vapor deposition layer. Each piston ring 1 possesses a contact surface 3 supplied with a contact surface profile 4, here built by a single sided chamber. The remaining cross member 5 is supplied with a removable cover 6. After the cover 6 has been applied, the piston ring packet, formed from the piston rings 1 – for example, as set out in ~~EP-B-0-702-097~~ – U.S. 5,743,536 whose disclosure is incorporated herein by reference is subjected to a vapor deposition coating, according to the PVD process, created in such a way that a vapor deposition coating 2, in this example consisting of CrN, is created.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 25 on page 5 and ending on line 4 of page 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The Figures 4a and 4b show a further variation. The piston ring 1, after the application of the vapor deposition coating ~~[[6]]~~ 2 is partially supplied with a galvanized layer 12, for example, out of chrome. In contrast to Figures 2 and 3, the profile 4 is provided in such a way, that undercut areas 11 are formed, into which the vapor deposition material can permeate only partially or not at all. After removal of the cover 6 – depending on the angle of inclination – either porous areas are formed here or even chambers, which in the operating state of piston rings 1 serve as oil holding reservoirs.